

MDT - Department of Transportation

Aeronautics Division

Vol. 58 No. 12

December 2007

Avaiation Conference to Feature Top Names in Speakers and Entertainment

The 2008 Montana Aviation Conference is scheduled for Feb. 28 – March 1 at the Heritage Inn in Great Falls. This year's conference will include the highest caliber in aviation speakers and one of Montana's top entertainers.

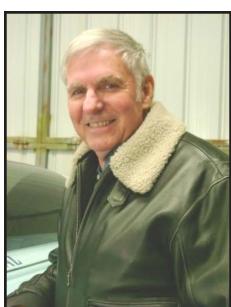
Saturday evening will feature aviation extraordinaire Dick Rutan. Dick made history in December of 1986 after completing a nine day, three minute and forty-four second around-the-world, non-stop and non-refueled flight. This world record remains unchallenged today. President Ronald Reagan awarded Dick the Presidential Citizen's Medal of Honor at a special ceremony for the Voyager Team four days after the landing. More recently, Dick was elected to serve as a member of the board for the Mojave Civilian Flight Test Center and Spaceport in Mojave, Calf. In July 2002, Dick was inducted into the National Aviation Hall of Fame in Dayton, Ohio. He received both his solo pilot's license and driver's license on his 16th birthday.

Dick flew 325 missions in Vietnam, 105 of them as a member of the Super Sabre FAC, a high-risk operation commonly known as the "MISTY's." He was hit by enemy ground fire on his last mission and was forced to eject from his burning F-100. Before retiring from the Air Force in 1978, Lt. Col. Rutan was awarded the Silver Star, five Distinguished Flying Crosses, 16 Air Medals and a Purple Heart.

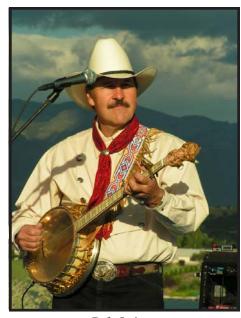
In 1997, the "Around the World In 80 Nights" tour was successfully completed in two small experimental Long-EZ aircraft. In 1998, his attempt at a third around-theworld record ended dramatically with an emergency parachute jump from a pressurized capsule suspended under a 110 foot, hot air/helium balloon after experiencing a dangerous fabric tear. This was his third life-saving parachute jump. In 2000, Dick went on a sightseeing tour of the North Pole, but after the airplane, a Russian Antonov AN2, fell through the ice, the pleasure trip quickly turned into a rescue mission. Currently, he is the chief test pilot for the EZ-Rocket project.

Friday evening of the Conference will feature Montana's own Rob Quist. Rob, a rancher's son and native Montanan, is recognized as one of the West's best known songwriters, composers and main stage performers. Rob has toured extensively throughout the United States, Canada, and Japan, headlining in every major concert hall in America.

The Missoulian named Rob one of the Premiere Montana Musicians of the 20th Century and he was just recently inducted into the University of Montana's Fine Arts Department Hall of Fame. He was saluted as "a celebrated Montana musician and composer who has captured the spirit of the West in his music, an evocative and versatile artist whose gift of song has touched the hearts and souls of his countrymen, an eloquent proponent of the history and beauty of the West whose legacy in song will be embraced by generations to follow."



Dick Rutan



Rob Ouist

continued page 3

Administrator's Column

Happy Holidays: With Thanksgiving behind us and the Christmas holidays fast approaching, I'd like to wish you and yours a very delightful holiday season. Many thanks to all of you for your support and assistance during the past year. The collaboration and partnerships that we share contribute to the success of the division and the overall wealth of the aviation industry in our great state. Take a moment to remember and thank those women and men serving in our United States military. And remember that: "God gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say thank you?" (author unknown)

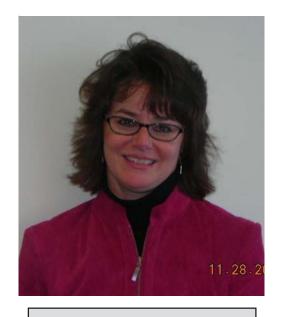
Enjoy family, friends and the season. Best wishes for a happy and healthy New Year.

USDOT Issues Order: The USDOT has selected Big Sky Airlines to continue providing essential air service at seven Montana communities for a new two-year period beginning March 1, 2008. In response to the request for proposals, USDOT received proposals were received from Big Sky Airlines and Great Lakes Aviation of Cheyenne, Wyo.

Washington update: A confirmation hearing has yet to be scheduled for Bobby Sturgell, nominated by President Bush as the next FAA Administrator. There seems to be concern with a Republican administration making a five-year appointment. The President may do a recess appointment – allowing the person to serve until a new administration takes office. Senate Minority Whip Trent Lott (R-Miss) has announced that he will resign his seat before the end of the year. Speculation for the resignation – the senator has other opportunities and plans to pursue the lucrative world of lobbying Congress. Senator Lott is the ranking member of the Senate Aviation subcommittee, serving for 35 years in the United States Congress. He is coauthor of S. 1300 the Senate FAA funding bill and key proponent of the \$25 user fee. It will be interesting to see if strong Republican support for user fees will remain. There has been no movement on an FAA reauthorization bill; it remains stalled in the Senate. The Senate's calendar is jam-packed through the end of the year – with reauthorization not included on the calendar. A long-term extension of the bill is expected to transpire before the holiday recess.

ADS-B Comment Period Extended: The FAA is allowing more time to comment on its ADS-B (automatic dependent surveillance-broadcast) radar proposal. An extra 60 days will be allowed to add your thoughts on the Notice of Proposed Rule Making — the comment deadline is now March 3. The transition from radar to ADS-B is expected to take more than 13 years and may cost you, personally, close to \$9,000. Currently, some forecasts expect the transition to cost the average aircraft owner about \$9,000 in necessary equipment upgrades should ADS-B compliance become mandatory, as planned by 2020. All aircraft flying within Class B and C airspace and above 10,000 feet would need to carry the equipment. On the whole, the FAA predicts that the industry faces a projected investment of between \$1.27 billion and \$7.46 billion. To view the complete NPRM and find out how to submit comments, please go to: http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2007/pdf/E7-22544.pdf

Special Committee Created: The board of Delta Air Lines has established a "special committee...to review and analyze strategic options...including potential consolidation transactions" after it was revealed that a shareholder is urging a merger with United Airlines. Delta has also retained financial and legal advisors to assist in the review although there have been no talks with United regarding consolidation. Delta emerged from bankruptcy earlier this year and resisted a takeover bid by US Airways, and is aid to be contemplating selling off regional subsidiary Comair. Interesting scenarios and changes continue in the world of airlines.



Montana and the Sky

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Editor: Patty Kautz

Conference, continued

Rob has released eight CDs and his original music has been charted on Billboard's Top 100, the National Independent Label Charts, and has hit the charts in Europe where his song "Rain, Tears and Whiskey" debuted on Radio ATL in Belgium at number 10 and "Living Wild and Free" debuted at number 16. His music has been recorded by country greats Michael Martin Murphey, Loretta Lynn, Mission Mountain Wood Band and The Montana Band. You won't want to miss Rob's show which is said to be original, professional and quite simply, one of the best.

Concurrent sessions will feature a variety of subjects from aviation history, to safety, to current events, and more. A half day pinch hitter course is also in the making for those who are interested, in addition to the aviation mechanic refresher seminar and teacher workshop.

A registration form for the conference is on page 4 of the newsletter. Rooms have been blocked at the Best Western Heritage Inn – 1700 Fox Farm Road. Please call (800) 548-8256 or (406) 761-1900 to make reservations. This is an event you won't want to miss!

For further information, please phone Patty Kautz at (406) 444-2506 or email pkautz@mt.gov.

Rates & Charges Survey Available Online

The MDT Aeronautics Divisions Rates & Charges Survey is on the Aeronautics Website www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/. All airports are invited to review it and offer any changes if necessary. Questions can be directed to Max Murphy at (406) 444-2506 or email mmurphy@mt.gov.



Time To Renew Montana Aircraft and Pilot Registration

By: Jeanne MacPherson, Chief, Safety and Education Bureau

MDT Aeronautics has mailed the 2008 aircraft registration invoices. The division is mandated by Montana law (MCA 67, chapter 3) to account for Montana aircraft no later than March 1st of each calendar year. It is most important to note that according to statute, aircraft that are not registered by the March 1 deadline must pay a penalty of five times the fee, plus the fee. A newly purchased aircraft must be registered within 30 days of entering the state or it is also subject to the penalty fee.

Unflyable aircraft must also be accounted for. There is no fee charged for an unflyable aircraft, sold aircraft, or dealer "inventory only" aircraft. You must, however, indicate the status of each aircraft on the invoice you receive and certify that the aircraft information is correct by signing and sending it back to MDT.

If you do not receive your aircraft registration invoice or if you have any questions, please call the division at (406) 444-2506. Also, please complete the pilot registration card that was mailed to you and return it with the \$10 registration fee to MDT Aeronautics Division. If you are interested in volunteering for Montana air search and rescue, please fill in the information on the back of the pilot registration card. Montana pilot registration is not only a state law (MCA 67, chapter 3) but also provides the division with a valuable tool for air search and rescue.

The \$10 pilot registration fee includes our monthly newsletter "Montana and the Sky" containing current information on aviation issues and events and a 2008 Montana Airport Directory. If you would like to receive the newsletter electronically please indicate this by checking the box on the pilot registration card and providing your current email address. This will help save printing and postage costs. For a complete description of MDT Aeronautics Division's functions, please visit our web site at: www.mdt.mt.gov/aviation/.

If you are no longer flying in Montana and want to be removed from our mailing list contact me at (406) 444-2506 or e-mail: jemacpherson@mt.gov

Thank you for your considerations and have a great flying year.

Montana Aviation Conference 2008 February 28 – March 1, Heritage Inn, Great Falls

Mail Registration Form & Payment to: MDT Aeronautics Division - Attn: Patty Kautz PO Box 200507 - Helena, MT 59620-0507 Phone (406) 444-2506 - Fax (406) 444-2519

Email: <u>pkautz@mt.gov</u>

Names of Participant(s) (for badges):		
Aviation Organization Affiliation:		
Address:		
City:	State/Zip	
Phone E-ma	mail address	
Register Early and SAVE!		
EARLY REGISTRATION: BY FEBRUARY 1, 2008 Takeoff to Landing Package (includes registration & all meals)	@\$120/PERSON @\$230/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ \$
-OR- Registration Fee (includes registration & <u>free</u> meals – see note below)	@\$65/PERSON @\$120/FAMILY	\$ \$
Thursday Luncheon Friday Luncheon **Friday Dinner/Entertainment **Saturday Luncheon Saturday Banquet	@\$15/EACH @\$15/EACH @FREE @FREE @\$30	\$ \$ \$ \$
	TOTAL PAYMENT:	\$
GENERAL REGISTRATION: AFTER FEBRUARY 1, 2008 Takeoff to Landing Package (includes registration & all meals)	@\$130/PERSON @\$250/PERSON/SPOUSE	\$ \$
-OR- Registration Fee (includes registration & <u>free</u> meals – see note below)	@\$75/PERSON @\$140/FAMILY	\$ \$
Thursday Luncheon Friday Luncheon **Friday Dinner/Entertainment **Saturday Luncheon Saturday Banquet	@\$15/EACH @\$15/EACH @FREE @FREE @\$30	\$ \$ \$ \$
	TOTAL PAYMENT:	\$

**PLEASE INDICATE IF YOU WILL ATTEND THE FREE FRIDAY DINNER/ENTERTAINMENT AND FREE SATURDAY LUNCHEON WITH NUMBER OF TICKETS REQUIRED. PERSON/SPOUSE AND FAMILY RATE INLCUDES 2 DINNER/DANCE AND 2 SATURDAY LUNCH TICKETS – ADDITIONAL TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED - \$30 DINNER/DANCE AND \$15 SATURDAY LUNCHEON. TO ASSURE ADEQUATE MEAL COUN, IF NO INDICATION IS MADE AS TO NUMBER OF TICKETS REQURIED NO TICKETS WILL BE RESERVED.

Refund Policy: Full refunds for cancellations will be given until February 1, 2008. From February 2 - 22 the registration fee less \$50 will be refunded. **After February 22**, no refunds will be given. If you cannot attend, you may transfer your registration to another person in the same registration category.

Scholarship Opportunities

Montana is very fortunate to have many generous individuals and organizations that believe in promoting aviation by offering monetary assistance to qualified persons. The Aeronautics Division assists in administering some of these scholarships and encourages participation. The scholarships are offered to Montanans to help defray costs of education (i.e., flight instruction, A&P, etc.) and will be presented during the 2008 Montana Aviation Conference in Great Falls. Scholarships awards will be based on a letter explaining the reasons for applying, future career goals, past aviation experience, if any, and outstanding achievements. The same letter may be submitted for each scholarship, but applicants must submit a seperate copy of the letter addressed to each scholarship. Letters of application must include a mailing address, daytime phone number and photograph. If you are selected to receive one of the scholarships, your photo will appear in the 2008 Montana Aviation Conference Program. Letters should be mailed to: Montana Aeronautics Division, PO Box 200507, Helena, MT 59620-0507 or call (406) 444-2506 for further information. Letters must be postmarked on or before January 11, 2008.

Harold Hamm Scholarship – Harold and Zola Hamm were the anonymous donors who established the first \$250 A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship in 1993. With the passing of Harold on Sept. 1, 2006, Zola decided to rename the scholarship the "Harold Hamm Scholarship" in honor of her husband of 19 years. Harold had an extremely strong passion for aviation. Together, he and Zola completed two airplane projects: the restoration of a J-3 Piper Cub and an experimental RV-6 aircraft. This year, Zola has graciously increased the amount of the Harold Hamm Scholarship to \$500.

A Love of Aviation (ALOA) Scholarship – An anonymous donor established this scholarship of \$250 in 1997.

Morrison Aviation Appreciation Scholarship – Jeff Morrison, retired former owner of Morrison Flying Service in Helena, established this \$500 scholarship as a token of appreciation to the aviation community.

Montana Antique Aircraft Association (MAAA) Scholarship – MAAA offers this \$500 scholarship to help defray the cost of flight instruction.

AOM Flight Training Scholarship – AOM has established this \$500 scholarship to financially assist a student pilot in obtaining their private pilot certificate.

Parrott Family Scholarship – The Parrott Family offers this \$1,000 scholarship to be used over a one-year period for pilot training programs for students enrolled in the Rocky Mountain College aviation program. The funds may be used for tuition in the RMC aviation program, and/or flight training expenses leading to a Private, Commercial, or Flight Instructor Certificate, and may include Instrument and Multiengine simulator training, and the purchase of aviation related materials and supplies.

Montana Pilots Association Junior Pilot Award – This recipient is chosen for outstanding interest in aviation, citizenship within his or her community, and demonstrated academic achievement. The recipient must have soloed and be actively involved in flight training. This is a \$750 scholarship.

Montana Pilots Association Flight Training Award - This scholarship is open to a person who has a considerable interest in aviation. The \$750 scholarship is to be used for flight training.

Blue Goose First Generation Flight Scholarship – This \$250 scholarship is awarded to a first generation pilot to assist with flight training. This scholarship is designed to assist a person who has a love of aviation, yet has had limited exposure to aviation, someone from a non-aviation background/family.

Exploring the Galaxy From Montana

Two volunteers for the Federation of Galaxy Explorers (FoGE), Jean and David Wallace, from Ryegate, Mont., were both selected by FoGE Headquarters to attend the October launch of the Space Shuttle. They will be VIPs at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, MD. Jean and David Wallace have exemplified the ideals of education and volunteerism which FoGE promots in its volunteer aerospace education youth program.

The FoGE is a grassroots, non-profit aerospace youth education program established in Silver Spring, Maryland by Nicholas Eftimiades in the spring of 2002. The first Galaxy Explorers Mission Team in Montana was established by the Wallaces in 2006 as a program offered by the 21 Century Community Learning Center in Harlowton. FoGE has since received charter application requests from volunteer groups in Billings, Polson, and Ronan. FoGE's aerospace program is open to youth in grades 3-12, and all FoGE educational materials and equipment are available free for loan from FoGE Headquarters to local Galaxy Explorer Mission Teams. FoGE promotes education in astronautics, astronomy, aeronautics, and civic studies.

Jean Wallace was also selected to attend additional FoGE training at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center in November. This aeropace education training was paid for with funds provided by FoGE Headquarters to enhance the expertise of FoGE volunteers. For additional information about forming a Galaxy Explorer Mission Team anywhere in Montana, contact Steven Heffel at Montana@foge.org.

In Memory



Paul "Red" Drennon was born in Otis, Colo., on Oct. 26, 1924, to Roy S. and Ida Lee Drennon. The family returned to the old homestead on the bluff in Hastain, Mo., during the Depression and Paul attended eighth grade at Walnut Grove School. He graduated from Warsaw High School in 1941.

After school, he went to CC Camp and then joined the Navy

with his brothers, Wanace and Wayne. After the war, he traveled the country and finally settled in Helena, where he has lived these many years.

Paul was well known for his zest for life and his adventurous spirit. In his early years, he was a motorcycle enthusiast and opened Red's Cycle Shop on Last Chance Gulch, which he owned for several years.

He was also an avid hunter and outdoorsman and worked as a wilderness mountain guide for many seasons, packing hunters in and out of his beloved Montana mountains.

He was an accomplished pilot, owned many different aircraft and had a passion for parachuting and Super Cubs. He loved to trail ride with his horses and mules and took full advantage of the long winter months on skis and snowmobiles.

He was good natured, kind hearted, a true gentleman and would go out of his way to help a friend. With no regrets, Red was a man who led as full a life as any man could hope for. He was a role model for many youth, friends and family. He left this world in the early morning hours of Oct. 11, 2007, at Veterans Administration Medical Center at Fort Harrison.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Roy and Ida Lee; his brothers, Wanace and Wayne; and sister, Ula Lee.

He leaves behind his loving wife, Joan; three step-daughters, Lama Tsering Everest of Brazil, Susan Westlund of Anchorage, Alaska, and Sharon Rider of Scottsdale, Ariz.; six grandchildren; seven great-grandchildren; Michele, Brent and Todd Stoos, to whom he was a friend and mentor; goddaughter, Heather Domme; two sisters-in-law, Marguarite Drennon-Jobe of Edwards, Mo., and Ruth Ann Drennon of Kennewick, Wash.; along with many cousins, totally devoted nieces and nephews and countless friends all across the country.

We loved him well and he will live forever in our hearts and memories.



Calendar

January 18-20 – Winter Survival Clinic, Helena. For further information contact Jeanne MacPherson at (406) 444-2506 or email jemacpherson@mt.gov.

January 22-23 – Aeronautics Board meeting; January 22 from 1-4 p.m.; January 23 from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Montana Department of Transportation Auditorium, 2701 Prospect Avenue, Helena. For further information contact Patty Kautz at (406) 444-2506 or email pkautz@mt.gov.

January 26 – Rocky Mountain College Aviation Program Open House for prospective students and parents. 8:45 a.m. to noon. Call (406) 657-1060 to make reservations.

January 28-29 – AMAA Convention, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. For further information, contact Colleen Campbell at (406) 463-2268 or email ecolleenc@yahoo.com. (CHECK EMAIL)

February 8-9– Flight Instructor Refresher Clinic, Wingate Inn, Helena. For further information, contact Jeanne MacPherson at (406) 444-2506, email jemacpherson@mt.gov.

February 28 – March 1 – Montana Aviation Conference, Heritage Inn, Great Falls. For further information, phone (406) 444-2506 or email <u>pkautz@mt.gov</u>.

March 15 – Rocky Mountain College Aviation Program Open House for prospective students and parents. 8:45 a.m. to noon. Call (406) 657-1060 to make reservations.

MDT attempts to provide accommodations for any known disability that may interfere with a person participating in any service, program or activity of the Department. Alternative accessible formats of this information will be provided upon request. For further information call (406) 444-6331 or TTY (406) 444-7696. MDT produces 2,400 copies of this public document at an estimated cost of 39 cents each, for a total cost of \$936. This includes \$565 for postage.

Surratt Winter Survival Clinic Scheduled for January

The MDT Aeronautics Division invites you to attend the Surratt Winter Survival Clinic on January 18 -20, 2008.

The Clinic, sponsored by MDT Aeronautics, will be instructed by Skip Stoffel, President of *Emergency Response International (ERI)*. Skip is a highly acclaimed expert in survival techniques and has taught at the Winter Survival Clinic for over 20 years. The MDT Aeronautics Division- Surratt Memorial Winter Survival Clinic is funded in part by Debbi Surratt- Myers. Debbi lost her husband, Terry Surratt, after an aircraft accident in 1992. Terry survived the aircraft accident only to die of exposure to the cold environment. The leading cause of death in outdoor enthusiasts is hypothermia.

The Surratt Winter Survival Clinic is designed to provide the knowledge and skills need to stay alive. The average survival scenario lasts about 72 hours. Skip Stoffel says that survival is all about "buying some time." Mark your New Year's calendars and put the essentials to "buying some time" toward survival on the fore front of your "to do" list.

While the ground school portion of the clinic is open to everyone, only 30 lucky souls will be able to participate in the overnight field session at the Lincoln Airport on a first-come selection.

The ground school will be held at the Helena Regional Airport in the upstairs reception room, with the kick-off at 4 p.m.. on January 18. There will be a \$10 fee for ground school and a \$20 fee to participate in the entire clinic.

For further information, contact Jeanne MacPherson at MDT Aeronautics Division (406) 444-2506 or jemacpherson@mt.gov.

FAA Announces 2008 Design Competition

The FAA Offices of Safety Services and Airport Safety and Standards, in partnership with AAAE, ACC, ACI-NA, and NASAO, announces a Design Competition for Universities. This competition gives students at U.S. colleges and universities an opportunity to address technical challenges in the areas of Airport Operation and Maintenance; Runway Safety/Runway Incursions; and Airport Environmental Interactions. The competition runs until April 18, 2008; top winners will win cash awards.

Highlights for the 2007 Design Competition: In 2007, FAA received 34 proposals from 16 colleges and universities; 2007 winners were announced by Tony Mello, Acting VP for ATO Safety Services, and Kirk Shaffer, Associate Administrator for Airports; 1st place for Runway Safety to a student team from Psychology Department at George Mason University; 1st place for Airport Operation & Maintenance and for Airport; Environmental Interactions to student team from Deptartment of Aviation & Technology at San Jose State University

The guidelines have been posted on the competition website at: http://www.faa.gov/runwaysafety/ design competition.htm. The website contains background and many resources for participants as well as official online submission forms for the required notice of intent and proposal submission.

Mechanics Seminar & IA Renewal Offered at Conference

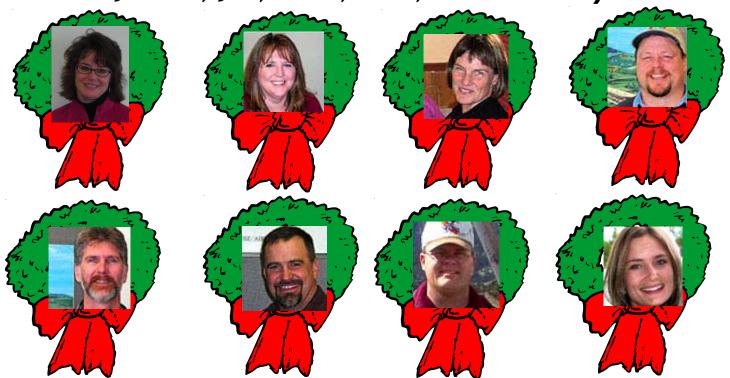
The 2008 Mechanics Seminar and IA renewal will once again be held in conjunction with the Montana Aviation Conference in Great Falls. The dates for the conference are February 28 - March 1. The Mechanics Seminar will be held on Friday, February 29 and Saturday, March 1.

Six hours of training on Friday will be offered and eight hours of training will be offered on Saturday. This works for those mechanics only wanting to attend on Saturday but still needing to update their IA for renewal.

Tentative Speakers include, Teledyne Continental Motors – Loren Lemen; Colorado Classic Aircraft-Carol Leyner; Engine Components Inc.-Tim Morland; Goodyear Aviation Tires – Dick Delagrange; Rocky Mountain Aircraft – Mitch Steinberg; Precision Airmotive – Alan Jesmer; Neil Pobanz – American Bonanza Society; Vince Betchtel – Tempest; Helena FSDO

Mechanics attending this year's seminar will be required to register for the Aviation Conference. The registration fee is \$65 for those who register by February 1. After February 1, the registration fee will be \$75. Registration includes all concurrent sessions, morning and afternoon coffee breaks with snacks, Friday night dinner and Saturday luncheon. If only attending the 8-hour Saturday session, a \$20 day pass is available. See the registration form on page 4 of the newsletter. Make plans now to attend, to discuss, and learn the latest in aircraft maintenance.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year! Montana Aeronautics Division Staff - Debbie, Patty, Jeanne, Jim, Mike, Max, Ken and Amy



Aeronautics Division

Montana Department of Transportation

December 2008

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